

Message Text

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17/70

ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EA-11 NEA-10 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 OMB-01

ACDA-19 SAJ-01 NSCE-00 EB-11 TRSE-00 OIC-04 /192 R

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P R 081315Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USLO PEKING
USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046743

C O R R E C T E D COPY (CORRECTION PARA 5 LINE 5)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECAFE, VN
SUBJ: RED:ECAFE - PRG AND KHMER ISSUES AT 30TH SESSION
REF: SAIGON 2875

CANBERRA FOR NAURU
NEW DELHI ALSO FOR BHUTAN
WELLINGTON ALSO FOR WESTERN SAMOA

1. SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT HAS INFORMED US IT EXPECTS CHINA TO PUSH ADMITTANCE OF PRG TO ECAFE AT 30TH SESSION OPENING COLOMBO MARCH 27, AND HAS REQUESTED USG SUPPORT TO OPPOSE SUCH MOVE. WE HAVE GIVEN ASSURANCES OF SUPPORT. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT QUESTION OF KHMER CREDENTIALS WILL ARISE AT COLOMBO MEETING.

2. UNLESS YOU HAVE OVERRIDING OBJECTIONS, ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE APPROACHES TO HOST GOVERNMENTS AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL, AND TAILORED TO LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES, TO REITERATE US POSITIONS ON PRG AND KHMER ISSUES DRAWING ON PARAS 3, 4 AND 5 BELOW, AND TO REQUEST HOST GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO AVOID DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES AT ECAFE OR, IF UNAVOIDABLE, TO DEFEAT ANY MOVES ON BEHALF PRG OR GRUNK AT ECAFE SESSION. FYI. PARTICIPATION OF PRG AT GENEVA LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE NARROWLY AVERTED BY VOTE OF 37-38(US) WITH 33 ABSTENTIONS. GENEVA 1335 SHOWING HOW
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STATES VOTED REPEATED SEPARATELY TO ALL ACTION ADDRESSEES. WE ESTIMATE KHMER QUESTION, IF IT ARISES, WILL ALSO BE DECIDED BY THIN MARGIN. WE HOPE NEITHER ISSUE WILL COME UP IN COLOMBO; IF EITHER DOES, WE WISH TO AVOID REPETITION SUCH CLOSE VOTES IF POSSIBLE. USG CONSIDERS IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT PRG AND GRUNK BE DEFEATED. END FYI.

3. USG HAS LONG ASSISTED GVN IN RESISTING IMPOSITION OF

SOLUTIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM BY FORCES EXTERNAL TO THAT COUNTRY. SINCE JANUARY 1973 PARIS AGREEMENT, DRV HAS WAGED DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE SEEKING TO ENHANCE INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF PRG TO UNDERCUT GVN POSITION BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD. PRG GAINS COME AT DIRECT EXPENSE OF GVN, AND CAN ONLY HAVE UNSETTLING EFFECT ON SITUATION IN VIETNAM. WE INTEND STRONGLY TO RESIST CURRENT DRV CAMPAIGN IN ALL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES AND BELIEVE OTHER NATIONS IN AREA--WITH DIRECT STAKE IN EVENTUAL OUTCOME OF SITUATION IN INDO-CHINA AREA--TO HAVE SIMILAR INTEREST. WE URGE THESE COUNTRIES TO AGREE THAT DRV/PRG PLOY IS UNACCEPTABLE DIVERSION FROM PROGRAM FOR POLITICAL RECONCILIATION FORESEEN IN PARIS AGREEMENTS AND TO COOPERATE IN BLOCKING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PRG STATUS. SIMILARLY, WE WOULD URGE NATIONS IN AREA TO CONTINUE THEIR COOPERATIVE EFFORTS TO DETER OR DEFEAT ANY PRO-GRUNK CHALLENGE TO CREDENTIALS OF LEGITIMATE KHMER GOVERNMENT IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. (WHERE APPROPRIATE, POSTS MAY RECALL EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGN TO THIS END BY JAPAN, THAIS, PHILS, MALAYSIANS, AND INDONESIANS AT 28TH UNGA.)

4. USG/GVN LEGAL POSITION THAT PRG IS NOT A STATE AND HAS NO VALID CLAIM TO LEGITIMACY IS WELL KNOWN. PRG IS RATHER A FRONT CREATED BY NORTH VIETNAM, HAS NO CAPITAL AND CONTROLS ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF SOUTH VIETNAM'S POPULATION. LACKING ANY ATTRIBUTES OF STATEHOOD, PRG CANNOT QUALIFY FOR PARTICIPATION IN ECAFE. THE US RECOGNIZES THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, A MEMBER OF ECAFE, AS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF THAT COUNTRY.

5. USG ALSO DOES NOT REGARD PRINCE SIHANOUK'S ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION (GRUNK) AS HAVING ANY CONFIDENTIAL

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ATTRIBUTES OF A LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT, BUT, GRUNK RATHER IS NO MORE THAN REGIME-IN-EXILE. THE KHMER REPUBLIC (GKR) CONTINUES TO CONTROL ITS CAPITAL, URBAN AREAS AND MAJORITY OF POPULATION. AS ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL, 28TH UNGA VOTED 53(US)-50 WITH 21 ABSTENTIONS ON DECEMBER 5, 1973 TO DEFER ISSUE OF KHMER REPRESENTATION TO 29TH UNGA, LEAVING THE GKR AS CAMBODIA'S REPRESENTATIVE. USG FEELS STRONGLY THAT WORK OF ECAFE SHOULD NOT BE DISRUPTED TO DISCUSS AN ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL MATTER WHICH UNGA ITSELF (THE PROPER FORUM FOR SUCH POLITICAL ISSUES) HAS DECIDED TO DEFER.

6. FOR REASONS GIVEN ABOVE US WILL OPPOSE VIGOROUSLY ANY ATTEMPT TO GAIN PRG PARTICIPATION IN THE ECAFE MEETING, AND ANY EFFORT TO UNSEAT THE GKR IN FAVOR OF PRINCE SIHANOUK'S REPRESENTATIVES. WE HOPE HOST GOVERNMENTS

WILL SUPPORT OUR POSITIONS AND SO INSTRUCT THEIR
DELEGATIONS TO THE ECAFE SESSION.

7. IN PLACES WHERE GVN REPRESENTED, POSTS MAY WISH TO
COORDINATE APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENT WITH GVN MISSION.

8. FOR BANGKOK: IF YOU DEEM IT ADVISABLE, YOU SHOULD
APPROACH ECAFE SECRETARIAT TO ELICIT ITS INFORMATION AND
VIEWS ON THESE SUBJECTS. YOU SHOULD ALSO MAKE CLEAR US
STRONGLY HOPES NEITHER MATTER WILL ARISE, BUT IF THEY DO,
WE WILL STRONGLY OPPOSE PRG AND GRUNK.

9. FOR COLOMBO: GIVEN SRI LANKAN RECOGNITION OF DRV/PRG
DO YOU ANTICIPATE
E E E E E E E

Message Attributes

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